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DE RUEHBO #1086/01 0371141  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 061141Z FEB 06  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1966  
INFO RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 6540  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY 7136  
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ FEB 7664  
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY 3213  
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY 8739  
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY 3819

UNCLAS BOGOTA 001086

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EXECSEC  
STATE FOR S/ES-O/CMS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [TBIO](#) [SENV](#) [ECON](#) [EAGER](#) [EAID](#) [PREL](#) [KFLU](#) [PGOV](#) [CO](#)  
SUBJECT: COLOMBIA: AVIAN FLU CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND  
TRIPWIRES

REF: A. 05 STATE 219189  
[1](#)B. 05 BOGOTA 10967

Sensitive but unclassified; not for internet distribution.

[1](#)1. (U) As requested in Ref A, post's avian influenza (AI) committee has begun to develop preparedness measures against AI, including AI-specific tripwires. For a comprehensive assessment of Colombia's AI preparedness, see Ref B.

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Post Avian Influenza Committee  
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[1](#)2. (U) Post's AI committee is chaired by the DCM and composed of representatives of the following sections: Management (including the Medical Unit), AID, RSO, FAS (including APHIS), CONS (including ACS), PAS and POL. The AI committee meets monthly to discuss post preparedness, as well as efforts to assist the GOC in its avian flu preparedness. Post has designated Political Officer Emily Fisher (FisherES2@state.gov) and Foreign Service Health Practitioner Sharon Swain (SwainSE@state.gov) as primary Mission points of contact for avian influenza.

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Post's Preparedness Actions  
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[1](#)3. (SBU) To date, the Embassy has taken the following actions:

- Assessed inventory of Personal Protective Equipment and Tamiflu. Post anticipates a delivery of Tamiflu from MED by the end of February.
- Identified staff with medical backgrounds.
- Posted general AI information on the Embassy's public website.
- Engaged the GOC on response strategy and health care capabilities. Post has been in contact with relevant GOC ministries since October 2005 (Ref B).

[1](#)4. (SBU) Other preparedness actions in paragraph 8, Ref A, are in process or under discussion, including a Mission-wide briefing for both American and LES employees and dependents,

scheduled for the end of February to discuss general avian flu information, MED guidance and post's contingency plans. Post also is identifying essential personnel and staff with medical conditions who may need to depart if authorized. The AI committee will consider other preparedness actions at subsequent meetings.

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Avian Flu Tripwires  
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¶5. (SBU) Post published AI-specific tripwires and responses on the Tripwire Reporting and Integrated Planning System (TRIPS) on the classified network (Ref A). At the most recent AI committee meeting, the committee began assessing contingency plans in the event that shelter in place and/or drawdown of personnel are not possible, safe or medically advisable. Post will provide more information, and include AI-specific tripwires for possible drawdown requests and shelter in place plans, when these contingency plans are finalized.

¶6. (U) The following two officers are responsible for the input of tripwire and response data and future updates:

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